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A method for the inhibition of the binding of $\alpha_4\beta_1$ integrin to its receptors, for example VCAM-1 (vascular cell adhesion molecule-1) and fibronectin; compounds that inhibit this binding; pharmaceutically active compositions comprising such compounds; and the use of such compounds either as above, or in formulations for the control or prevention of diseases states in which $\alpha_4\beta_1$ is involved.